

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 4-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3 and 7 are canceled and claim 2 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 3.

Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claim 3 contains allowable subject matter.

Applicant requests the Examiner to initial and return PTO Form 1449 filed with the March 4, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the PTO 1449 is attached here for the Examiner's convenience.

The Office Action objects to claims 2 and 3. Claim 2 is amended to obviate this objection.

The Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,880,013 to Chio and claims 2 and 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,961,467 to Shimazo et al. Claim 2 has been amended to incorporate the allowable features of claim 3 and claims 1, 3 and 7 have been canceled. Thus, these rejections are moot.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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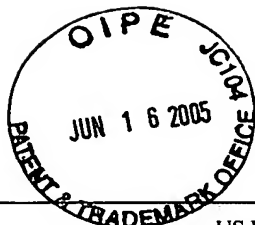
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Attachment:
March 4, 2005 PTO Form 1449

Date: June 16, 2005

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 117922		APPLICATION NO. 10/724,086	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Kiyoyuki NARIMATSU			
				FILING DATE December 1, 2003		GROUP 3736	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1.	6,315,734 B1	11/13/2001	Tomohiro NUNOME			
	2.	5,000,188	03/19/1991	Osamu KOJIMA			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	3.	JP-A-2000-139859 w/ abst. & trans.	05/23/2000	JAPAN			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: March 4, 2005